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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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                        FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA
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      UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
                                    ) Case No. 2:20-cr-00308-JAD-DJA
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                  Plaintiff,
                                    ) Las Vegas, Nevada
 5
      vs.
                                    ) March 13, 2023
                                   ) 3:05 p.m. - 5:01 p.m.
 6
      STEPHEN THOMAS PARSHALL,
                                   ) Courtroom 6C
                                   ) IMPOSITION OF SENTENCE
 7
                  Defendant.
                                     CERTIFIED COPY
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             REPORTER'S *REDACTED* TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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                 BEFORE THE HONORABLE JENNIFER A. DORSEY
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                    UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
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      APPEARANCES:
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      For the Government: BIANCA R. PUCCI, AUSA
                          UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
                          501 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Suite 1100
14
                          Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
                          (702) 388-6336
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      (Appearances continued on page 2.)
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                         Amber M. McClane, RPR, CRR, CCR #914
      Court Reporter:
                         United States District Court
22
                         333 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Room 1334
                         Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
23
                         (702) 384-0429 or AM@nvd.uscourts.gov
24
      Proceedings reported by machine shorthand. Transcript
      produced by computer-aided transcription.
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APPEARANCES CONTINUED:
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      For the Defendant:
           ROBERT M. DRASKOVICH, ESQ.
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           ROBERT M. DRASKOVICH, CHTD.
 4
           815 South Casino Center Boulevard
           Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
 5
           (702) 474-4222
 6
      Also Present:
 7
           Erica Strome, USPO
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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA; MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023; 3:05 P.M. 1 2 --000--PROCEEDINGS 3 4 COURTROOM ADMINISTRATOR: Now's the time set for an 5 imposition of sentence in Case Number 2:20-cr-308-JAD-DJA, United States of America versus Stephen Thomas Parshall. 6 7 Counsel, please state your appearances. 8 MS. PUCCI: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Assistant 9 United States Attorney Bianca Pucci on behalf of the 10 Government. MR. DRASKOVICH: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Robert 11 12 Draskovich on behalf of Mr. Parshall who's seated at my right. 13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Good afternoon. This is the hearing set for the imposition of the 14 15 sentence on Mr. Parshall in this case. Back on Halloween he 16 appeared before the Court and entered a plea of guilty to two 17 counts of sexual exploitation of children, one count of coercion and enticement, and one count of receipt and 18 19 distribution of child pornography. The plea was entered 2.0 without the benefit of a plea agreement. I accept his guilty 21 plea and adjudicated him guilty of these charges. 22 Probation has calculated the offense level under the 23 federal sentencing guidelines to be a 43 and recommends a sentence of 30 years for Counts 1 and 2, 20 years for Count 4, 24 25 and a life sentence for Count 3, concurrent, for a total term

of life in prison. 1 2 The defense has filed a sentencing memorandum in 3 which it argues for a sentence of 15 years in prison, and the 4 Government has filed a sentencing memo in which it is arguing 5 for a sentence of life in prison. 6 Has everyone had an opportunity to review the 7 Presentence Investigation Report? 8 MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, Your Honor. 9 THE COURT: And, Mr. Draskovich, have you reviewed it 10 carefully with your client? MR. DRASKOVICH: I have. 11 12 THE COURT: Are there any unresolved objections at 13 this time? MR. DRASKOVICH: 14 There are not. 15 THE COURT: All right. Let's go ahead then and work 16 through the guideline calculations, which we find in the PSR 17 beginning on page 13. Probation used the 2021 guidelines 18 manual incorporating all amendments to determine the defendant's offense level. 19 We start with Count 1, Group 1, sexual exploitation 2.0 21 of children for Victim 1. The quideline base offense level is 22 32. Probation applied a four-level increase because the 23 offense involved a minor who had not attained the age of 12 24 Then Probation applied a two-level increase because years. 25 the offense involved the commission of a sexual act or sexual

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contact. Probation then applied another two-level increase because the defendant knowingly engaged in distribution. Another two levels were added because the defendant was a parent, relative, or legal guardian of the minor involved in the offense or the minor was otherwise in the custody, care, or supervisory control of the defendant. Then, in paragraph 70, Probation applied another two-level increase because for the purpose of producing sexually explicit material or for the purpose of transmitting such material, the offense involved the use of a computer or an interactive computer service. Here it was a cell phone. So two points were added giving us an adjusted offense level of 44. Do we all agree that is the correct computation on Group 1 -- or Group 1, Count 1? MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: Okay. Group 2, Count 2, sexual exploitation of children, and Count 3, coercion and enticement for Victim 2. The base offense level is 32. Probation applied a two-level increase because for the purpose of producing sexually -- sexually explicit material or transmitting such material, the offense involved the use of a computer or an interactive computer service, and that gives us an adjusted offense level for this grouping of 34. Do we agree that's accurate?

MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor.

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2 MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, Your Honor. 3 THE COURT: Moving to count Group 3, Count 4, receipt 4 and distribution of child pornography. The base offense level 5 is 22. In paragraph 83, two levels were added because the 6 material involved a prepubescent minor or a minor who had not 7 attained the age of 12 years. And then five levels were added 8 because the defendant distributed in exchange for other 9 valuable consideration but not pecuniary gain this material. 10 In paragraph 85, Probation applied a four-level increase because the -- the offense involved material that portrays 11 12 sexual abuse or exploitation of an infant or toddler. And 13 then, in paragraph 86, Probation added five levels because the 14 defendant engaged in a pattern of activity involving the 15 sexual abuse or exploitation of a minor. In paragraph 87, 16 Probation applied a two-level increase because the offense 17 involved the use of a computer or interactive computer service for the possession, transmission, receipt, or distribution of 18 19 the material or for accessing with intent to view it. then, finally, in paragraph 88, Probation added three 2.0

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Amber McClane, RPR, CRR, CCR #914

approximately 120 images and then one video, which equates to

75 images, so for a total of 195 images of child pornography.

So we increase by four -- oop, sorry -- is this one three or

points -- or three levels because the offense involved at

least 150 images but fewer than 300. Here it was

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four?
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               MS. PUCCI: I believe it's three levels.
               PROBATION OFFICER: Three levels.
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               THE COURT: Three levels. Okay.
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               -- by three levels, and so that gives us an adjusted
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      offense level -- an adjusted offense level for count Group 3,
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      Count 4 of 43.
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               Do we all agree that's accurate?
               MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor.
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               MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: And then in paragraph 93 we perform the
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      multiple-count adjustment. We get two units. The greater of
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      the adjusted offense levels is 44. So we increase the offense
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      level under 3D1.4 by two giving us a combined adjusted offense
      level of 46.
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               Do we agree all of that's accurate?
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              MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor.
              MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes.
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               THE COURT: And then Probation applied a two-level
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      decrease for acceptance of responsibility. Do we agree that
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      the factors under 3E1.1(a) are satisfied for that two-level
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      increase -- or two-level decrease?
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               MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor.
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              MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, we do.
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               THE COURT: All right. And the Government is not
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moving for the third point; correct? 1 2 MS. PUCCI: No, Your Honor. Thank you. 3 THE COURT: All right. In paragraph 98 we have the 4 Chapter 4 enhancement. And so here the applicable offense 5 level is 49, but under Chapter 5, Part A, which tells us that 6 in the rare instances where the total offense level is 7 calculated in excess of 43, the offense level will be treated 8 as a level 43. Do we agree that's correct? 9 10 MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes. 11 12 THE COURT: All right. So that gives us a level 43. 13 Turning to the criminal history computation, which we 14 find on page 19, the defendant's criminal history score is 15 zero which establishes a criminal history category of I. 16 Do we agree his criminal history category is I? 17 MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes. 18 19 THE COURT: I'm flipping to page 32. For Count 1 and 2.0 Count 2, the minimum term of imprisonment is 15 years and the 21 maximum term is 30 years. For Count 4, the minimum term is 5 22 years and the maximum term is 20 years. For Count 3, the 23 minimum term is 10 years and the maximum term is life. Do we agree those are accurate? 24 25 MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor.

MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes.

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THE COURT: With respect to supervised release for Counts 1 and 2, the Court must impose a term of supervised release of 5 years to life; for Count 3, it's 5 years to life; and the same for Count 4.

Do we agree those are accurate?

MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor.

MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, they are.

THE COURT: The maximum fine for each count is a quarter of a million dollars, and a special assessment of \$100 per count is mandatory for a total of \$400. The defendant is also subject to the provisions of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 requiring the Court to assess an amount of \$5,000 per count on any non-indigent person or entity convicted of a qualifying offense. And the defendant is subject to the provisions of the Amy, Vicky, and Andy Child Pornography Victim Assistance Act of 2018. So in addition to any other criminal penalty, restitution, or special assessment authorized by law, the Court must assess not more than \$17,000 on any person convicted of a qualifying offense or not more than \$35,000 on a person convicted of another -- of any other offense for trafficking in child pornography or not more than \$50,000 on any person convicted of a child pornography production offense.

And the fine range for this offense is \$50,000 to

\$250,000. 1 2 Do we agree all of that is accurate? MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. 3 4 MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, it is. 5 THE COURT: I find that Probation's guideline 6 calculations are accurate, and I adopt them. 7 To reiterate, this is level 43, criminal history 8 category I, and Probation is recommending 30 years each for Counts 1 and 2; 20 years on Count 4; life in prison for Count 9 10 3; all concurrent for a total term of life. 11 And I will now hear argument in support of sentencing 12 starting with the Government. 13 MS. PUCCI: Thank you, Your Honor. 14 Just preliminarily, I do want to let the Court know 15 that I do have Victim 1 and Victim 1's mother here to speak, 16 and I would ask that they speak at the end of the hearing 17 prior to Your Honor imposing sentence. And I'll do my 18 argument at this time. 19 Over six years' span, the defendant, Stephen 2.0 Parshall, raped a victim who was starting approximately seven 21 or eight years old until she was 13 years old. For six years 22 this defendant orally penetrated her, anally penetrated her, 23 and attempted to vaginally penetrate her. She had to endure 24 that for six years. At one time throughout those six years 25 she sought help. She told her mother that the defendant was

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raping her, and the defendant manipulated the situation. He convinced the victim that she wasn't being raped. Rape is only when someone bleeds a lot. He convinced the victim she was not being raped. And the mother also did not believe the victim at that point because she -- the victim didn't understand and took it back and she said, I'm sorry, I take it back, I take it back.

And the defendant, instead of stopping, he was emboldened. He was emboldened to continue his rapes of a seven year old, eight year old, nine year old, ten years old, 11 years old, 12 years old. And when the victim was 13 years old, on May 30th of 2020, finally she had reprieve. The defendant was arrested on other unrelated conduct, and because of that arrest investigators were able to locate images of Victim 1. They were thumbnail images, but the investigators were not deterred. They wanted to ensure that the girls that were in the custody and control of this defendant were safe from him. And in doing so, they brought the girls in, and Victim 1 initially kept her mouth shut. She had already tried once. She had tried once to get free of this defendant's rape, and it didn't work. It was only until the images were shown to her by a third party giving her the opportunity for that freedom, from being raped by this defendant ever again.

Your Honor has seen the outcry, that moment where the victim was looking at those images. You saw her demeanor

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change. You saw her able to finally let it out. She just wanted to be free. She just wanted it to stop. She didn't care what happened. She just wanted it to stop. She wasn't looking for a crime or punishment. She just wanted it to stop. And it has at this point; it has stopped. And the only way that we can ensure that no other victim will ever fall pray to this defendant is to keep him in custody for life.

When the victim was speaking to investigators, she informed them that the defendant would text her, "Come here." As parents use that phrase quite often telling their kids to come here, this defendant, who had custody and control over Victim 1, used those two words for his sexual deviancy. "Come here" are words that a child doesn't ever shrill from, but those two words resonated differently for Victim 1. She knew what was about to happen. She knew what was going to be required of her. She went; she didn't know what else to do.

In the year leading up to the defendant's arrest, there were approximately 29 text messages from him to Victim 1 in some variation of "come here." Approximately 29 times we can attribute in just one year, the last year of his offense. And if you take just each one of those instances in which the victim was sexually assaulted and attribute the mandatory minimum of 15 years, the defendant would be looking over 400 years in custody.

This case we did not seek that third point, and the

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reason why we did not seek that third point is because we had to go through intensive trial preparations. It wasn't until the eve of trial that this defendant ultimately pled guilty. And I don't want to make any mistake, the Court is -- is to consider that plea of guilt, and that's what those two points of reduction are for. But that third point we are not giving because of the amount of preparation that we had to do in this case.

More specifically, the victim had to come in and retell in detail multiple times to prepare. She was prepared to come in and tell 12 strangers what happened to her. She was prepared. She asked multiple times if there was any way that she could do it without having to be in the courtroom in front of him, but due to confrontation issues we explained to her that she was required to be here and she would have to testify in front of the defendant. She prepared herself. And then, the minute before -- or the day before that she was to come in and testify, the defendant did plead guilty, but we won't go for that third point.

The victim will forever live through the trauma that she's experienced at the defendant's hands. She will have to deal with this for the rest of her life. She has gone through therapy and will continue to go through therapy.

We are asking for the restitution in this case with regards to the therapy that she's had to undergo and will at

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least undergo until she's 18 years old. But that therapy will likely not stop. She will continue to live her entire life with the trauma that the defendant caused. He needs to live his entire life remembering that trauma, and that is with a life sentence.

In this case there were only three images recovered of the victim, but that doesn't mean that there weren't more. The defendant admitted on his Tumblr chats with another user that he takes picks and vids and he sends them but deletes them. He's a sophisticated defendant. He's a sophisticated criminal. He knows he needs to get rid of the evidence, but he didn't get rid of it all and we were able to find those videos -- or those images and save this victim.

In the investigators' attempts to ensure that they had all the information with regards to this defendant's conduct, they went through 17 devices, and on another device they located more chats on what's called Whisper and then moved over to Kik, two social media platforms in which this defendant also victimized other children. He sought out children in order to create child pornography for his own sexual desires.

One of those victims is Victim 2. She was 16 years old at the time, she was looking for validation, and the defendant gave it to her and he manipulated her. And then she took pictures of herself to appease the defendant's request,

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to appease the defendant's sexual desires. This wasn't a one-off. The defendant has a clear sexual motive, and in that you can see through his criminal history -- or through the evidence in this case that he has continuously gotten more egregious.

Prior to finding -- prior to the defendant finding

Victim 2 and victimizing her, he also sought out child

pornography images on the Internet, and he traded those images

for other images. He got images as young as an infant being

penetrated by an adult penis in that child's vagina. He sent

out prepubescent images to other users. From child

pornography receipt and distribution and trading to coercion

and enticement and seeking child -- production of child

pornography through the Internet to going hands-on and

creating child pornography himself, the defendant has shown

that his conduct has escalated over the years, and the only

way to protect this society and the children in this society

is to sentence the defendant to life.

And if at any point for some reason this defendant is able to get out of custody, we are asking for lifetime supervision. This defendant has demonstrated that even when people try to stop him, seek help, when he's given the opportunity to stop, he won't. We ask that all the supervised release terms that the Probation Office has put into the PSR are implemented.

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Additionally, with regards to Condition Number 2, it specifically requests no contact without the Probation Office's approval for his own children. And as Your Honor's aware under the *United States v. Wolf Child*, specific findings need to be made in order to impose that condition.

And in this case, the evidence has shown that the relationship that the defendant had with Victim 1 and the location and how he was able to groom Victim 1 into being able to rape her for all of those years demonstrate that, in order to keep his biological children safe from him, he should not have any contact with them unless previously approved by Probation. And based on the facts and circumstances in this case, those specific findings can be made to satisfy the Wolf Child requirements.

Your Honor, the defendant is still facing state charges for the hands-on offenses of this victim. Your Honor was given, prior to sentencing, the transcript of the victim's description of very brutal sexual assaults that the defendant perpetrated upon her. In reading that transcript,

Your Honor's aware that she was able to definitively describe multiple different instances. And because of those descriptions, she -- the defendant was charged with 23 counts of sexual assault for a child under the age of 14 and 14 counts of lewdness with a child under the age of 14 that are still pending in state court. As this is a related case and

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because each one of those sexual assaults and lewdness counts are related conduct in the grooming that led to the production and those assaults were at the time that the production occurred, we would ask for that to be concurrent to the state sentence.

But the defendant is also pending two matters with regards to the investigation that led to the devices, which I'll just generally refer to as the JTTF investigation. The sentence we are seeking in this case has nothing to do with those crimes, and as such any sentence imposed here should be consecutive to those two JTTF cases. There's one in federal court as well as one in state court, and if Your Honor needs those case numbers, I do have those ready.

THE COURT: I'll take them.

MS. PUCCI: The Federal District of Nevada Case Number is 2:20-cr-128, and the Nevada State Court number is C-20-348860-2.

Your Honor, the only sentence that is just in this case is life. The victim will suffer for life. She cannot escape a life sentence, and the defendant shouldn't either. We ask that you impose a life sentence. And if he were ever to get out, a lifetime supervised release with all the conditions.

Thank you.

THE COURT: Mr. Draskovich.

MR. DRASKOVICH: Your Honor, before I -- I address 1 2 the Court, my client would like to address Your Honor. Will 3 the Court allow him to make a statement to the Court first? 4 THE COURT: Of course. 5 Mr. Parshall, this is your opportunity to speak to 6 the Court directly. We call this portion of the hearing 7 allocution, and this is your chance to tell me anything that 8 you think I should consider in deciding what sentence to give 9 you in this case. Is there anything you would like to say, 10 sir? THE DEFENDANT: Um... I'd like to start off by 11 12 apologizing to everybody who's here for having to be here. 13 Sorry. 14 I apologize to my family, for everybody who's been hurt in all this. 15 16 Sorry. 17 I had more. I just forgot a little bit. Sorry... 18 I would give anything to go back and make it right, 19 but I can't. I just... hope that some day... anyone who has 2.0 been hurt, everyone who's -- who's suffered through this will 21 be able to be okay. And just know that I'm sorry. 22 That's it. 23 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, sir. You can have 24 a seat. 25 Mr. Draskovich.

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MR. DRASKOVICH: Your Honor, I was retained approximately three years ago. Mr. Parshall has been in custody now for nearly three years. You know, it's undisputed, when you review the criminal history, he has a criminal history zero. He's never been charged or convicted of an offense prior to the allegations that ultimately gave rise to the investigation in this case.

You know, throughout the last three years I've had a fair amount of contact with Mr. Parshall -- Mr. Parshall and his family which is seated here behind me. As Your Honor's well aware from reviewing the Presentence Investigation Report, he has a very large family. In fact, his mother and his father and six sisters would like to briefly address the Court as well.

What's been very curious and somewhat out of the ordinary through my representation of him is that he's had no contact with his family up until just recently with his mother. They've complained that they send him letters, and they don't hear back. They contact my office and ask me to drive out and check on him because they've heard nothing from him. He's truly remorseful for what this case has done to his family, and I'm referring to both sides of this courtroom.

You know, I believe it was very telling -- and his statement was not prepared by me. I went and visited him a week and a half ago. We didn't go over what he should say or

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what he shouldn't say. He didn't ask Your Honor for leniency. He figured he's 38 years old. His life, for all intents and purposes, is maybe over.

What concerns me -- and this happens in every case that -- where a defendant enters a plea. You know, the competing narratives of what may or may not happened merge in one, and then it's, well, we're going to have this demonization of a person through all aspects of their life. They now become a sophisticated criminal. They become violent. I mean, that's an understandable tendency, but oftentimes circumstances which give rise to cases such as these are not like that. The circumstances are more complex.

I'm not in any way making light of what occurred, and that's why Congress seemed fit to impose such harsh sentences both in the federal prosecutions as well as state prosecutions. But the question really becomes: What sentence is sufficient and not greater than necessary to, you know, address the elements laid out in 18 USC § 3553? There's no question concerning the seriousness of the offense. The question becomes: What is just punishment?

Obviously any sentence -- and there's mandatory minimums -- will afford adequate deterrence; although, most of these cases are committed by first-time offenders. I mean, the level -- the level of recidivism is fairly small for those that are convicted of a sex offense. (c), to protect the

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public and ultimately, (d), to provide defendant with needed education or vocational training.

You know, as Your Honor saw in the Presentence

Investigation Report, Mr. Parshall comes from a very religious family. His family are -- are members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. And then the question then really becomes the very basic tenants of Christians, you know, that -- an idea of hope, redemption. You know, to argue that a life -- a sentence of life is the only way to adequately protect him from committing offenses in the future I think is based on speculation because he hasn't been through the criminal justice system before. He's never been incarcerated before. The last three years that he sent -- spent in a high-security detention facility is the first time that he's ever experienced anything like that.

As Your Honor has seen from the Presentence Investigation Report and our -- and our sentencing memorandum, he served our country honorably between 2007 and 2011. He was deployed to the Persian Gulf. He obtained the rank of a Seaman E-3.

You know, human beings, we're very complex animals.

We've evolved to be very complex. We're a combination of aggressive, passive, cooperative, competitive, mean, nice -- I mean, people aren't one thing. I mean, the human species is not binary. We're not good; we're not bad. We're very

complex animals with a wide range of attributes and characteristics.

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I actually liked him, and I know that has nothing to do with the Court's decision of appropriate sentence. He's pleasant. He's intelligent. He's got some very good attributes. And to just say, well, he's only deserving of a life sentence I think is really not the appropriate sentence. I've had dealings with our -- with the Government, with this specific prosecutor. She's very well-intentioned. I mean, the State and the Government -- in this case, the Federal Government -- generally tried to do the right thing, and I hold a great deal of respect for them and the job they do.

Sometimes very well-intentioned individuals create certain expectations upon those who have been victimized that are concerning, and I know this from firsthand experience from a member of my family. To tell a person you are going to be traumatized for the rest of your life, you will suffer for the rest of your life, you'll be a victim for the rest of your life creates conditions that aren't necessarily beneficial to that person that's been a victim of a crime.

You know, I'm not going to stand here -- and we've addressed it in the memos, both sides, what we believe the appropriate sentence is. I wouldn't presume to know what Your Honor should do and what Your Honor should sentence this gentleman to, but I would submit with the idea of hope for all

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parties involved and for this idea of redemption. To really lock him up without any possibility of a release is not appropriate. If he was this second, third, fourth-time recidivist who has appeared before Your Honor or any other judge, for that matter, who just can't keep from committing crimes such as these, I would submit that that would be the appropriate sentence. But given that we are dealing with a human being who is not a sophisticated criminal, who made some attempt to get rid of evidence which never occurred, and we are left with these three images of this alleged victim or this victim and we should somehow assume that there's more I think is well-intentioned but not appropriate.

I would urge the Court to consider a sentence that would allow him to be released and to have him -- something to work towards. You know, sentencing him to life without doesn't really restore anything to anybody. It's a tragedy any way that you look at it, whether your name's in the caption or it's a pair of initials as the victim.

I'm not going to stand and argue before Your Honor that a period of supervision for life would not be appropriate. They need a father as well. He needs to have some communication with them by writing, by supervised video contact. Because precluding them from their father, physically or otherwise, again, is -- is not in their best interest and will cause harm

to them. 1 2 Based upon these factors, those contained within 3553 3 and those contained within our sentencing memorandum, I would 4 urge the Court to impose a sentence less than that argued for 5 by the Government, and on that I'd submit it. 6 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Draskovich. 7 Ms. Pucci, is your preference that I hear from the 8 victim and her mother before I hear from Mr. Parshall's 9 supporters or after? 10 MS. PUCCI: May I have a moment, Your Honor, just to kind of --11 12 THE COURT: You may. 13 MS. PUCCI: If the defense would like to have their statements first, the victims in this case will go last. 14 15 Thank you, Your Honor. 16 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Draskovich, you indicated 17 you had brief statements by family members? MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes, Your Honor. We -- if we could 18 start with his mother and then his father. 19 THE COURT: Okay. And there's a microphone right 2.0 21 there in the gallery. 22 MR. DRASKOVICH: He has six siblings. Are we 23 still -- do we want six sisters to speak? There's --24 MRS. PARSHALL: Not everybody's speaking. Not 25 everyone's speaking. We've wrote it out.

MR. DRASKOVICH: We'll start with mom with the 1 2 Court's permission. 3 THE COURT: Thank you. 4 And your name for the record? 5 MRS. PARSHALL: Deborah Parshall. 6 THE COURT: Thank you. 7 What would you like to share? 8 MRS. PARSHALL: Can I start out by saying that if I 9 listen to what was said and did not know this person, I would 10 only see a monster in my mind. If it's okay with you, we'd 11 like to maybe put a few pieces in the puzzle here that paint a 12 little bit of a different picture of what Stephen has been 13 during his life. And whether it helps you or not understand 14 him better, we also want him to know, remember what we feel 15 about him. Nobody has anything long to say, so thank you. 16 You probably don't know this, but Stephen did not 17 want any of us here today. He has been trying to spare us any hurt that we've already felt, experienced, and this is his way 18 19 of protecting us. That's one of his ways that he shows his 2.0 love, is to protect us. But we are a family, and we come 21 together to help each other. That's how we show our love. 22 As you know, Stephen was born Number 6 in a family of 23 12. He's the second son of only two boys. His only brother, 24 Chris, is ten years older, but from the day Stephen was born, 25 there's been a bond between those two brothers unlike anything

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I've ever witnessed. Chris thought Stephen was a gift just for him, and Stephen absolutely adored his brother.

When Stephen was 14 years old, Chris was killed in an automobile accident. Naturally, the entire family was devastated, but none more so than Stephen. He hardly talked or ate for days. To be honest, we were all in a world -- lost in a world that hurt and did not know how to handle it. I only bring this up because of what Stephen did with this, not the idea that his brother died. It was Stephen who inadvertently figured out how to help the family recover from this tragedy.

There was a boy named Daren around Stephen's age staying with someone down the street. Daren had been taken out of his home by Child Protective Services. Stephen came home one day and asked if we could take Daren in and let him be part of our family. I was -- honestly, I was stunned. I couldn't even hardly take care of my children at the time, still dealing with the feelings of losing a child, but Stephen kept insisting we need to help Daren, we need to help Daren. And we did. That is how Stephen ended up having a foster brother, Daren, for many years.

As we helped Daren with his problems, we forgot our own. Stephen understood this naturally. That is natural for him to reach out to help people. That is how we have seen him his whole life. I -- Stephen has spent most of his life

helping others. And I just want to say, I know that sounds trite, but it would be impossible to fill you in on the whole of Stephen but each of us will add a piece to this so maybe you can get an idea.

As long as I am alive, I will support my son in any good he is willing to do or any changes he makes to better himself. But it will make no difference in the love that I have for him; that is freely given. I believe him to be a good man. We are not defined by the one action but by the many.

Thank you.

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THE COURT: Thank you.

Hi there. Tell me your name. And you can point that microphone up, too.

MR. PARSHALL: Good afternoon, Your Honor. My name is Bruce Parshall. I am Stephen's father.

I have known him his entire life. He was and is still and will always be the greatest Father's Day present I had ever received.

From his earliest childhood he was always the champion of those people who were in need. I remember one evening when our family was coming out of a restaurant and an automobile accident occurred at that moment. Without hesitation, Stephen immediately made his way across six lanes of traffic to be the first one there to help. He doesn't

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think of the other people -- or of himself, he only thinks of the other people to help. He doesn't question whether or not he should help. He only questions how fast he can get there to help.

Years later, while serving in the Navy, he volunteered to assist in the rescue and recovery effort of the -- after the Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster that occurred after that earthquake and tsunami hit Northern Japan.

He's always been the one to show up to help, whatever the need, and he usually works the hardest. When family members or friends move, he's the one that can be counted on to be there to help. When anyone who knows him needs help, he's the one to call. When I have a project that I need help, my son is the one to whom I turn.

He's always been the dad that I wanted to be. He's spent his weekends taking his girls to parks, on frequent camping trips, hikes to interesting places, road trips to scenic places. He wanted them to appreciate the scenic beauty of the world around us. Every year he would take his kids out to the Fourth of July activities in Boulder City. He also taught them why we celebrate the Fourth of July; that it wasn't just a day of picnics and parades, but there was a significance to that date and to respect and remember the history of the country.

He instituted family institutions like doughnut

Fridays for his daughters to give them something to look 1 2 forward to after a hard week at school and to celebrate little 3 things in life as well as the big ones. 4 He's a loving and devoted father. He's a caring and 5 a protective brother. He's a fun and respected 6 brother-in-law. He's a well-loved and beautiful son. He's an 7 Eagle Scout, and he is a veteran. People who know him love 8 him and respect him. 9 The fact that he has pled quilty to a crime is 10 further unwillingness -- further evidence of his unwillingness 11 to cause harm to others. He would rather suffer these 12 consequences than drag his children through a public 13 spectacle. If possible, I would have the Court reject that 14 and take it to trial, but I've been told that that's not 15 possible. 16 I love my son. And it's possible that it might 17 appear that I have every reason to paint life as -- to paint 18 him as -- as an angel who has done no wrong. All I wanted was 19 to let you know that there is much more to his character than 2.0 what he's been accused of and that there are reasons why he 21 may have made the pleading that he did. 22 I appreciate your time. Thank you. 23 THE COURT: Thank you, sir. Who's next? 2.4 25 Hi there. Tell me your name.

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MS. DAVIS: Hi. My name is Nicole Davis.

Stephen is my younger brother. I've always considered myself luckily to have him as such. Stephen is a good person who came from a good home. As you can see, he has ten sisters but only one older brother who you had learned that has died when Stephen was only about 15.

As his sister, he has always been respectful, loving, considerate towards me and my family.

Growing up, Stephen was special. Not because he was a brother in a house full of girls, but because of his personality. He was so energetic and fun-loving that we loved being around him. Just as his lawyer has said, he -- you can't help but just love him.

This was a -- sorry. He felt like he was always in trouble or disappointing people because he didn't fit the criteria that anyone had set for him. This was right at the height of learning about ADHD as a newfound diagnosis and trying to fully understand and diagnose it in Stephen. It was heartbreaking to watch as Stephen would just feel broken. His intentions were never to hurt or offend. Stephen then started accepting blame or sacrificing himself if it meant it would help someone else or kept them from feeling sad or hurt. He knew what it felt like to be dejected, sad, or hurt, and didn't want anyone else to feel like that if he could help it.

If he ever saw anyone that looked upset or in need,

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he was the first to try and uplift and help in any way. These experiences seemed to make him more considerate and compassionate. He seemed to always find the stray and social rejects when it came to friends. He wanted so badly to be able to help them see their worth and their value. This trait does not only impact people around Stephen but to animals as well. I don't even know how many times he brought a stray animal to our parents' homes or even to my home. He absolutely loves animals and treats them with tenderness.

When my husband and I purchased our first dog from the pound, Stephen found out that our dog had had a sister that we were able -- unable to adopt. He could not bear the idea that this dog was left without her sister, so he went to the pound the very next day to bring her home. He regularly brought his dog over to my house to let the sisters play. The excitement they shared in seeing each other was matched by Stephen's own excitement. He always looked out for the strays and the rejected wherever he was.

Stephen is my younger brother, but I've always looked up to him. His love for family and his desire to do and be good is commendable. I love watching him play with my children. He is absolutely the cool uncle. Being such a kid at heart, Stephen was the one who would play, tease, and give my children the attention that all kids require. I loved when I would have another baby and to be able to share one with him

because he loves them so much, especially when they became more interactive and attentive. I did have to keep an eye on him because he would try to give them their first bite of ice cream or candy before they even cut their first tooth.

I recently had the opportunity to be able to videoconference with Stephen and introduce my youngest child to him who is now a year and a half. I was so excited to share that with him, but the experience was hard at the same time. Stephen's incarceration has been hard on our family, particularly because we know how hard it is for Stephen. He loves his family deeply, and knowing that he is missing out and may have hurt us is probably the worst form of punishment for him.

I was surprised to hear any of the accusations said about him because it does not align with his character. But it does not change how I feel about him or make me think less of him. Stephen has always been willing to take responsibility for his actions. I know him to be an honorable individual and truly one of the good guys. We love him, and we want the best for him.

Thank you.

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THE COURT: Thank you.

Hi. Tell me your name.

MS. PARSHALL: My name is Emily Parshall.

I am writing a character statement on behalf of my

older brother, Stephen. As he's almost nine years my senior, 1 2 I have known Stephen my whole life. I am the second youngest in our family of 12. We're --3 4 (Reporter instruction.) 5 THE COURT: She's asking for you to slow down. It's 6 hard for her to write what you're saying. MS. PARSHALL: I do have it written down because I 7 8 will speed up again. So just remind me. I will slow down. THE COURT: I think I even have a sign up here. 9 10 MS. PARSHALL: Perfect. I will try to look up. 11 We're divided rather unevenly with ten girls and two 12 boys. But since I was barely six when my oldest brother, 13 Chris, died in a car accident, for most of my remembered childhood there was only Stephen. 14 15 Most of my best memories from childhood included 16 Stephen. We lived across the street from our elementary 17 school and just down the street from the junior high. Though 18 it wasn't necessary with our proximity to the school, Stephen 19 would insist on picking me up from kindergarten on his skateboard so I could ride home with my cool older brother. 2.0 21 Sometimes he even stopped by the ice cream truck around the 22 corner and let me get a Tweety Bird Popsicle. Since the eyes 23 were gumballs, that was a rare treat we were never allowed 24 from our parents because, with our long hair, we often had 25 gum-related incidents.

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Stephen taught me how to ride a bicycle, climb trees, play trampoline dodgeball, and the floor is lava on the school playground equipment. When I was practicing math sheets, in order to be the fastest in my third grade class for a competition, Stephen sat and timed me over and over.

In middle school, Stephen bought the Disney video game Kingdom Hearts. The four youngest girls, which included me, loved to watch him play since he was better at it than us. It was like watching a movie. When he got to the end of a game and it was time for him to battle the big boss, he waited until all of us got home from school and then ran downstairs to tell us he had been waiting all day for us. Stephen -- dang it. Stephen didn't need our presence to play the game, but he knew how badly we wanted to watch it so he used a well of patience not often found in teenage boys to wait for us to return home from school.

At one point Stephen also started to learn how to draw. He recorded cartoon television shows and paused them in order to draw a scene or a character. When I wanted to sit and try to draw with him, despite having no artistic ability, Stephen gave me tips and waited for me to finish my own drawing before moving the cartoon show forward.

By the time I was in high school, Stephen had chosen to enter the Navy. Before he left for boot camp, he gave all of us his address and asked if we would write him. I remember

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writing him and thinking I wouldn't hear back. We have a significant age gap and there are other sisters who are much closer to him so I didn't expect or need a letter in response and said so in my letter. Not only did I get a letter back, but he also promised that he would always respond to any letter I wrote him. For the next few years that he was in the Navy, that proved true. No matter how long it was between letters or how far away he was, I always got a letter back when I wrote one to him.

After college, I served a mission trip for my church for 18 months. When I returned home, my whole family was at the airport to greet me, along with Stephen's new beautiful baby girl. I have never seen a prouder father, and I have six brothers-in-law.

A short time later, I was renting my first apartment with my younger sister. There had been a lot of moving within my family. With siblings buying houses and relocating in and out of the state, we had the whole packing-and-moving thing down pat. But when I let everyone know the day we were moving into our fourth-floor apartment with no elevator, Stephen was the only who showed up to help. He had his kids that day, but just brought them and put them to work inside the apartment doing little things that made them so excited to help.

When we purchased a home a year later, Stephen was there again to help. He is always there. Service and family

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are and always have been key tenets of Stephen's personality and character. There has never been a time when I have hesitated to call and ask for help nor doubted it would come when I did.

Stephen has always exemplified serving and helping from his sisters to his friends to the Navy to his own children. Nobody has ever -- dang it. Nobody who has ever watched him interact with his children and family would ever doubt the selfless love he has for them.

These charges and his plea were very hard to hear and even harder to accept, but there was no point during this process, whether innocent or guilty, that Stephen has not had my love and support. I believe actions need to have consequences. I believe in the law and in justice, and I also believe in mercy and compassion. My hope is that this further understanding of who Stephen is will help with the incredibly difficult task of balancing the two.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MS. BOWMAN: My name's Camilla Bowman. Sorry.

I will also be brief. Thank you for your time.

Stephen Parshall is my older brother. I've known him my whole life, which is 35 years, and I just want to describe a few aspects of his character to help all parties receive the most accurate portrayal of the kind of person that he is.

He has several core beliefs. He serves others. He

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loves his family, and he protects his family. He provides service to everyone.

When he completed boot camp training for the Navy, he participated in a naval graduation ceremony after which he disappeared for a little while. We discovered later that he was helping other Navy graduates carry their luggage to their cars. He never misses an opportunity to help a person.

When Stephen married and assumed the role of father for the first time, he realized quickly that structure was needed for his daughters, and he began to institute a regular bedtime and a regular routine of family dinners and homework time, even though it made him the bad guy at times to enforce new rules that his girls may not have enjoyed. He loved them enough to hold firm to these regular practices, and gradually his daughters began to thrive under a steady, consistent, two-parent household.

Stephen is more concerned for the welfare of his daughters in particular, but also for his sisters and his parents, than he is for himself. In his attempts to shield everyone from hurt or harm, he is willing to sacrifice the remainder of his life. But I know with certainty Stephen has more value, love, and worth to offer the world outside of incarceration.

Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you.

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MS. SPAHR: Hi. My name is Heather Spahr.

Stephen is my closest sibling in age, and as such, we spent a lot of our time together. I understand Stephen has pled guilty, and I'm writing to offer a more complete picture of who he is as a person.

Stephen is considerate, thoughtful, compassionate, entertaining, and accepting. I often recall the many years we spent playing outside constructing our own alternative reality of make-believe. He was the best at thinking up creative solutions to boredom, and exerted enormous effort to make each of his ten sisters laugh if any were in need. I think of those years with fondness, affection, and emotion.

He is, by definition, my younger brother, but he has often taken upon himself the role of protective older brother by choice.

Out of respect for the Court's time, I will focus my remarks on one facet of Stephen's character that stands out to me. His steady and consistent ability and desire to accept full responsibility for his choices. I can easily remember times as children when our make-believe world would occasionally result in the accidental breakage of a lamp or household item. Playing tag with eight children indoors can sometimes get a little rambunctious. In a large family, it's easy to point the finger at another sibling and escape punishment. However, any time Stephen was the one at fault,

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he was more likely to own up to his mistake and accept the punishment. Sometimes he would even take the punishment when he wasn't at fault because he thought it would spare his sisters from a grounding or extra chores.

He was and is a very caring and considerate person.

His desire to protect others has often resulted in the

detriment of his own freedom. This is so consistent with

Stephen's proclivity to think about others more than himself.

Stephen has demonstrated this character strength his entire

life. It is part of who is he.

I struggle to put into words all that Stephen stands for because he is so much more than the one example I offered. I've always known I could rely on Stephen. He is the favorite uncle, beloved brother, dependable father, and a hardworking, contributing member of society.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony as I hope it will help you understand a little more the depth of Stephen's character. I am and always will be available to support Stephen in whatever he needs. I love him because I know who he is and what he stands for as a person.

As Paul "Bear" Bryant said, when you make a mistake, there are only three things you should ever do about it:

Admit it, learn from it, and don't repeat it.

I've seen Stephen put those wise words into action and look forward to his continual growth.

THE COURT: Thank you. Anybody else? 1 MS. PARSHALL: Hi. I'm deaf. So if you're having a 2 hard time [indiscernible] me, let me know please. 3 4 Okay. I'm Stephanie Parshall. I am Stephen's oldest 5 sister. Bear with me. I'd like to share what I know about my brother Stephen. I'm sorry. All right. 6 7 I'm sorry. 8 THE COURT: If you would like, maybe someone else can 9 read your letter for you? 10 MS. PARSHALL: Sure. I'll have my mom read it for 11 you. 12 MRS. PARSHALL: She told me no. 13 She says: I'd like to share what I know about my brother, Stephen. Stephen loves his family. I mean, fiercely 14 15 loves his family. He loves doing things with his family. One 16 way he demonstrated this love is by taking his family each 17 year to the Boulder City Fourth of July Parade for the water activities. His girls loved attending, and Stephen had so 18 19 much fun that he encouraged his sisters and his sisters' families to attend as well. It has become an annual tradition 2.0 21 thanks to Stephen's love of wholesome recreational activities 22 with his daughters. Stephen would do anything for his family. 23 I know he -- sorry -- I know he loves his family as much as I love him. 24 25 Thank you for your time.

THE COURT: 1 Thank you. 2 Is that everybody? Okay. MR. DRASKOVICH: Yes. 3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 4 5 Ms. Pucci. 6 MS. PUCCI: Thank you, Your Honor. The Victim 1's 7 mother would like to speak first. 8 THE COURT: Yes. 9 MS. O'MALLEY: Hi. My name's Veronica O'Malley. I'm 10 mom. 11 THE COURT: And that -- can you raise the podium for 12 her a little bit, too? I think maybe the... MS. O'MALLEY: Thank you. 13 THE COURT: Thank you. 14 15 MS. O'MALLEY: I've waited for this day for some time 16 because I didn't talk to anybody about what had happened. 17 didn't tell his parents the pain that I went through before we 18 were even to the point of being found out. 19 His family is lovely. They're amazing. His sisters 2.0 have supported me through very, very dark times, but not after 21 this particular incident. On June 1st of 2020, my family's 22 home was raided by the FBI. It was dark. It was early in the 23 morning. I had to walk out of my home with my hands in the 24 air. Once they saw I wasn't armed, my four daughters had to 25 do the same. My second daughter, she had to run to the

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bathroom and throw up because she was so scared. My dad was next to come out with our dogs. My family sat in the back of my father's truck for hours. My dogs were separated and in two different vehicles. The search took a long time, and it did because my home was a disaster. It wasn't fit for anybody to live in.

They were looking for evidence for what he was originally arrested for. This event is what led to the dark secret and why we are here.

While we were waiting, my two younger girls were able to just fall asleep in the back of this pickup. We were outside. They offered us shelter in their vehicles, but my kids wanted to be by their mom. really didn't have any emotion to this event, and I really didn't understand why. I thought she was in shock. My second daughter was definitely in shock.

In the morning, after they were done searching, I signed papers on everything they took. We all went into the house to sleep because we were physically, mentally, and emotionally exhausted. I got up and informed his parents and went back home. Informing his parents of the situation was very hard. They were good people, and telling them that their son was arrested and being charged for domestic terrorism was very difficult because I didn't understand any of it. I did not -- I am not a political person when it comes to going out

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and doing things. I have my opinions. And what I can do to exercise them, I exercise them myself. I don't try to impose myself in places.

A friend of mine came over to sit with us and tried to make things seem normal. That's when the police and the CPS showed up.

I'm sorry. Everything's all over the place.

And they asked me to sign my girls over to someone and to make my home liveable, and I did. I signed my girls over to his mother. I started that day with my dad and a few friends. All of his sisters came and helped. His brother-in-laws came to help. My dad worked so hard, he got heatstroke. We rebuilt my home from the floor up. I had ten days to do this.

During this time, I saw a shift in the personnel that was helping with my case. My home got to the condition for a series of reasons that we were -- became unliveable. I worked full time. There was a period of time that I worked part time but it was at night, and I came to find out later that at night was sometimes when he would go after my daughter. There was no opportunities for me to come home early and catch him. I didn't know because he always had my car.

I went back to work full time, and I worked full time most of our relationship. He rarely worked, and if he did, it was his money. I went back to full time to be able to pay my

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bills because he was stealing the money and gambling it. And what we would tell me to make a life for us, maybe if he won, he could get something for us.

I cooked all the meals. If he fed them, it was something very simple like rice with cream of mushroom soup. My daughter, to this day, still hates cream of mushroom soup because it reminds her of him.

On my days off, I would try to clean, but he would guilt me into believing that I was a slave driver to my children and I wanted everything perfect and that they would only love me and everybody would only be happy if we went out and we did things. My kids did enjoy these activities, but they were always coming home to a dirty, disgusting house, and I never got help.

If we did clean the house, it would turn into a fight. He'd be screaming at the girls at the top of your lungs so much that the only way to stop the fighting was to stop and go do something. And he would showcase all of the things that he did with the girls; taking them to the park, taking them on these trips, take them and teach them Nevada history. Those are all things that his father taught him and did with him. But when we came home, it was gross. It was disgusting.

So other excuses for the house not being clean was -- some of them, were you have kids. It's going to be messy. My

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brother-in-laws don't even clean; my sisters do. And my expectations were too high. This still affects me to this day. When too many things are out of place in my home or I [indiscernible] small, I start to panic and I start to clean my house. I start to think about the filth I was in. When Saturday morning comes and I start to clean the common areas, I have to remind myself I don't need to rebuild this like I have had to before. All I need to do is just maintain it and clean it.

It was during that time that they had seized all of these items. Their family doesn't speak to me any more and has alienated and her sister from them, her sister being the second oldest. They can't get past the denial of their grieving that these things actually happened to . At one point, somebody had told me that they thought they had paid off my daughter to say these things, and my daughter heard that. So she believes that nobody in the family believes that these things had happened to her and that she is a liar, and she is not.

I never told them what kind of monster he was and how he was just mean to me and the girls. They only saw the show that you consistently put on them -- for them. You would always put on show for anyone you had to, and you could change your character into what would be approved of in the situation that you were in.

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Your mother still helps me with the two younger girls. You dad won't even look at me. And any conversation that does happen always is awkward. And I believe that they start to realize that their son did do these horrible things to me and to my daughters. And we are doing great, but those memories of this time that we lived in that house will never go away. And they're not going to go away in 15 years, and that's what they're asking for, is only 15 years for him. Those memories will never go away for my children. Somebody raises their voice in the house, you can see my kids duck and get scared.

One of the times that he convinced me he was somebody else was I did find something in his phone that wasn't appropriate. It did have children in it. And when I brought it to his attention, he tried to explain to me how he was using them to catch people who were pedophiles like a vigilante. I was so stressed out in my own home that I couldn't see anything except for what was right in front of me, and I lived like that every day for -- we were together for eight years -- for at least five.

On the day all my daughters had to go through their interviews with CPS, I had to change my hair color because I was receiving threats in your involvement with the boogaloo boys.

was first up, and we finally had the opportunity

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to be set free. All the details of her case and what she told them I let her keep. That is her story. I never pushed to have details. I don't need them. I believe my daughter. know he did these things to her, and I believe he would do them again. And they would have not stopped if my house wasn't raided that evening. Hours later, I get the news, because I was sitting in the CPS office with my other three daughters and his mother. They had moved his mother out of the area and came in, and that's when they told me. They had pulled me in a room, and they had showed me photos. I didn't want to see these photos, but I had to. I feel now, if I had saw them, I could identify more, but I was in such shock that something had happened to my daughter and I didn't listen to her the first time. she had came to me the first time, she had used the word rape. And when I had asked her questions on what had happened, her -- her answers were very pulled back. They were like, well, I don't like how he walks around in his underwear. I don't like it when he cuddles me. And she was eight, and I don't know if she understood or wanted to tell me the questions. But she was telling the truth; he was raping her. And she decided that she was just going to keep that to her

Her name is , which is the protector of the

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Amber McClane, RPR, CRR, CCR #914

and protect herself -- not herself -- protect me and her

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underworld, guardian of the underworld, and she did. She protected everybody on how she -- that's what she thought would be the best thing at the time. She didn't want to cause any chaos.

To this day, she will take the blame for things that are not her fault. I tell her every day: This is not your fault. You didn't do this. He did.

All four of my daughters, including his two biological daughters, had to go through physical examinations to make sure that they weren't touched or penetrated in any way. At the time my youngest I believe was going to be -- she would have been four at the time. She had to have a full physical examination because he decided to touch and rape my oldest daughter. These children will not forget about that. They won't forget about it in 15 years.

All my daughters went through counseling after this is. Luckily, CPS lined me up with some of the most amazing people and the people that had helped me. A lot of people have horrible things to say about CPS. I have nothing but great things to say. They lined me up with a counselor for my three youngest to go to weekly where they were just able to play and talk and to try to find out if he did anything to any of them. According to what they were able to find out, he didn't. But sometimes I still think, well, he did it to one. He has other victims. He was seeking out other children. He

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has countless nieces and nephews. Why wasn't -- why are they any different than my daughter? To me, they're all in danger.

Any child around him is in danger.

This is very minor, but this affected my job. I missed two weeks in the beginning of June to rebuild my house. Luckily, I got paid because I had COVID leave. For case prep, I took three weeks off. I'm not promotable at my job because I don't have an open availability. I take every Tuesday off to take my daughter to her counselor, to her therapist, and I will continue to do that as long as I can. I don't care. When she turns 18, she's still my daughter. If she needs a ride, I will get her there. If she needs help paying for it, I will pay for it. I wasn't able to protect her the way I should have as -- her as a child. I was too blind, couldn't see through the character that he was of being, oh, well, if you're upset, I'll sing to you, things will be better.

Obviously was the most affected. She was scared to go anywhere after. She felt everybody knew something, and something was going to happen to her. When the allegations went out that he abused his daughter, they hit the newspaper. They were so specific that people knew who I was, and they knew what daughter it was. And she didn't want to go to school, and luckily it was COVID and she could do it online.

But her freshman year came, and luckily things had died down enough. This year, it's time. It was time for the

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case. The only selfless thing that he ever did was say he was guilty that day. Because the last thing that I wanted was another newspaper article where she felt like she wasn't protected.

When the news -- she felt like everyone failed her and that she was supposed to be protected. She went into mom mode. She tried to protect her baby sisters. She tried to do everything for them; cook for them, clean for them, anything. No matter what I tried to do for them, she wanted to do it better because she felt like she needed to protect them. And that's how she was trying to protect herself. She stopped showering for a while because she thought nobody would want her if she didn't shower. She stopped eating. But the worst is she stopped smiling. She felt that, if she kept it to herself, we would have been better. I remind her all the time this isn't her fault and that it's his, that he did this to her. And I remind her every day that she saved herself and she at least saved one other girl. And then there's probably countless others that he could have talked to, got to, and maybe even raped.

She had to start take medication because she couldn't feel any more. But she is so strong, she recognized that herself. The day I told her her dog, Kraken, had died she just continued eating like nothing had happened. She knew she felt dead inside. She went to her psychologist and told her

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that, and then that's when we decided to start medication so she'd have the ability to feel again.

He took -- he took her ability away to feel happy. She quit all of her hobbies. She can be compulsive and do things just because she wants to feel that rush and that happiness because, what we can do for ourselves that we -- like, sit down and read to make us happy, she doesn't have that anymore. And that's why she continues to go to counseling and will for the rest of her life.

She gets anxiety around people coming into our home because that's where he started raping her, is in our home. So if people come into our home, we talk to her and be like, if you feel unsafe, that person leaves. But that anxiety still has not passed from her.

And one thing that wasn't addressed today is his friend, Phil, abused my daughter. And he had thrown Phil out of our house. He didn't tell me what happened and refused to tell me what happened, and nobody would. I figured out why he didn't. Because if she talked to somebody, he would have been found out. He protected another predator who's already been sentenced for 39 years because he didn't want to be found out.

Everything he does for somebody is going to benefit him, and it always has. All of these selfless acts that they spoke about was to keep his character good somewhere. I don't -- I believe he loves his family, but it was all to look

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good. Anything he ever did for me was just so I would stay longer.

My daughter's memories are going to live forever.

They're not going to go away in 15 years. If he ever had the opportunity to get out, she would break down. She would feel like she failed of protecting herself and other people. The only thing I live for now is to make sure that my daughters are protected. And if I didn't stand here and talk to you and tell you how I felt about what she had gone through, what I had gone through, I don't know if everybody would really know what kind of monster he was and he can be.

I never spoke ill to him to his family during this whole thing because I care for them and I love them, and I didn't want to bring them that pain. But he is a monster. He [indiscernible] of my daughter, he went after these other girls, he was doing it on the Internet, he was distributing porn to other people who are just as awful as he is.

So I don't think 15 years is enough. Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MS. PUCCI: Your Honor, is it okay if she were to take the witness stand? She would like to make sure she can address the defendant.

THE COURT: Sure.

VICTIM 1: I was writing this last minute, but I did have a lot on my mind. One thing I wanted to ask was: Why?

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Why me? Why did I deserve or receive to go through that? mean, thank God it was me though; right? I would have -- I don't want anybody to go through what I went through. constantly wondered if it was normal or okay, and I would just sit and wonder why. Like, at night, like, I would just -just sit and listen to this one song and that just -- I would just wonder: Why -- why me? During the whole thing, I was kind of emotionless about it because I didn't know if it was normal or -- and I didn't know if it was okay or not. But I thought this was -oh, this is what people do. This is okay. I never -- I didn't know how to deal with my emotions, so I just kept them hidden a lot. But once things were able to get out, it was when I was really affected. I didn't know how to cope. I -my -- my mom is right. I was afraid to talk to anybody. I felt like my family didn't -- didn't love me, didn't appreciate me anymore and saw me as just wanting to get rid of him because I didn't like him. And that point, we did have good times together. then I would still remember about what was happening, and still wondering why. When it first -- when the FBI came to our house, I was -- that was the one thing I was scared of. I was, like, they're going to find out. They're going to find out. And I

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didn't want them to find out, and that's why I tried to keep

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it in during the investigation. But as soon as I was showed the pictures of me, that's when it, like, finally hit. And then that's when I had -- I had to say something.

After that, I was just emotionless. I didn't -- I didn't know how to feel, and it progressively got worse. As my mom said, I did stop showering, stop eating, and I also tried to find other ways to cope, which included self-harm.

And I struggled with that for about a year. I -- it -- this affects my relationships with other people friend-wise and just talking to other people wise. It just affects just all -- all my relationships with everybody. But the fact that I thought it was my fault is what still kind of hurts me now because it wasn't my fault. I mean, yes, I allowed it to happen because what else -- I didn't know what else to do.

When I stepped in here and he looked at me, I was -I didn't want to do this. But then I knew I -- I knew I had
to finally close the -- this chapter. Because it's been -it's still going to bother me forever while you just get to
sit and just let it just -- you just get to remember what you
did while I just get to sit and struggle every single day with
my relationships, my mental health, and just everything. I
still have scars that I have to look at every single day
because of what other people -- kind of what other people
caused, and mostly because of you because you took my
self-worth away. You took it all away, and it's still

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something that I struggle with every single day talking to people.

This whole -- leading up to it, watching the interviews again, it -- that's what really -- that's what really -- I'm trying not to swear -- that's what really hurt me. Just rewatching just everything, just knowing the emotion that I went through was -- that was the toughest part. But knowing that I would have to see you again and face you again is what also made me really afraid. Because the last time I saw you, you were sexually abusing me.

I -- I don't think you should just get 15 years

because I'm still going to be living my life, and I don't need

to be dealing with knowing that you're out, that you could be

possibly trying to hurt other people, and I don't want you

communicating with my sisters at all. I don't want you

communicating with them at all. You do not deserve to talk to

them at all. And neither do you deserve to talk to my mom or

me or -- or my other sister, ever -- I don't want you

talking to any of them.

I have a lot more to say, and I really wish I could stand right up next to you and just scream and yell at you because of how much you've put me through. I really, really wish I could do that, but I can't.

That's all.

THE COURT: Thank you.

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MS. PUCCI:
                           Thank you, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT:
                           Thank you.
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               Anyone else, Ms. Pucci?
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               MS. PUCCI: No, Your Honor. Thank you.
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               THE COURT:
                          All right. Does Probation have anything
     to add?
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               PROBATION OFFICER: I do not, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT:
                           Thank you.
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               All right. Any reason, legal or just, why I should
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      not proceed with sentencing at this time?
               MR. DRASKOVICH: No, there is not.
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               MS. PUCCI: No, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: I have heard and read and considered the
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      charging document, the information at the plea hearing, the
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      Presentence Investigation Report, the sentencing memoranda
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      filed by both sides and anything attached to that --
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               This will take me a little while, Mr. Draskovich.
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      You-all can have a seat. Thank you.
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               -- the statements and arguments of counsel, the
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      statements by the defendant, the statements by everyone here
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      in the courtroom today, Mr. Parshall's family, the victim, and
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     her mother. And, of course, all of the factors and
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      considerations under § 3553(a).
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               First, there are several points I think that are key
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      factors in the analysis of the correct sentence in this case.
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I first consider the nature of Mr. Parshall's conduct. He pled guilty on the eve of trial to four separate sex crimes; two counts of sexual exploitation of children, one count of coercion and enticement, and one count of receipt and distribution of child pornography. These are all extremely serious crimes, and they target our community's most vulnerable members.

Indeed, the types of sex crimes that typically find their way into this courtroom have various categories of victims. The first category is children whom the defendant never meets. These are the victims of much of the child pornography that forms the basis of the § 2252 offenses that we see. And these offenses -- offenses are horrible because they continue to revictimize their subjects by feeding a depraved market and keeping these images alive. All child pornography offenses are extremely serious because they result in perpetual harm to victims and validate and normalize the sexual exploitation of children.

Congress has indicated its intent that crimes like this receive strong and lengthy sentences, as you indicated, Mr. Draskovich. And these are the types of victims of Count 4 in this case.

The defendants who commit these crimes often argue that the crimes are bad but they're not really dangerous to the public because these crimes are committed from a computer

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screen, and the risk of touching a real child is nonexistent or low.

The second category is children who the defendant seeks out and contacts over the Internet but not in person, either -- typically, just because it didn't get to that point. And these are actual children in actual communications with a defendant often who becomes a victim by being enticed to send photographs or engage in sexually explicit communications with the defendant. These children are personally victimized by the defendants who engage in this behavior, predators, who threaten their entire sense of safety. Mr. Parshall was doing this to Victim Number 2 and others.

Defendants who engage in this conduct often argue that they were engaging in some kind of a depraved fantasy but really wouldn't touch these children.

And then the third category is those children that the defendant does touch. Mr. Parshall was doing this to Victim Number 1 for many of her young years; hideously and habitually sexually abusing this child in his care and custody. As if that wasn't torture enough, he also took photos and video of these vile and debased crimes and published them to like-minded monsters in this incestuous pedophile community and shared with them the stories of his conquests.

Mr. Parshall, with all of his actions in the

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aggregate, has demonstrated that no children are safe from him and his crimes. He is dangerous; a dangerous, long-term habitual predator, and his prey of choice and young, often very young, girls.

I've also listened carefully to Mr. Parshall's sisters and parents and all that they had to say. So, in reaching a sentencing determination, I don't discount the mitigating considerations that he served his country in the Armed Forces, that he has a minimal criminal history, and this is his first felony conviction and he has accepted responsibility for his crimes by entering a guilty plea to each of them before putting the victims on the stand. He is apologetic, and he clearly has strong family support.

The length of time that these crimes went on, even after being confronted by the victim's mom about them, indicates that Mr. Parshall's likelihood of recidivism is real and serious. And the only way to mitigate that is a significant term of incarceration. And certainly these are the types of crimes that Congress has ensured that a lengthy term of incarceration will be given for.

So when I consider all of these factors and certainly all of the factors, as I must, under § 3553(a), I find that a sentence of -- for Counts 1 and 2, the statutory maximum of 30 years. For Count 3, 33 years. For Count 4, the statutory maximum of 20 years, concurrent, for a total of 33 years

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followed by lifetime supervision concurrent to his state court sex crime prosecution charges but consecutive to any sentence he receives in the JTTF cases -- the federal cases, 2:20-cr-128, the state case is C-20-348860-2 -- is sufficient but not greater than necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of sentencing.

I believe that this sentence takes into account the nature and circumstances of the offenses, the history and characteristics of the defendant, the kinds of sentences available, the sentencing range, and the policy statements of the Sentencing Commission. I believe this sentence reflects the seriousness of these crimes, promotes respect for the law, provides just punishment, affords adequate deterrence to criminal conduct, will help protect the public from further crimes by Mr. Parshall, will provide Mr. Parshall with needed programming, will avoid sentencing disparities, particularly when I consider the various sentences that have been given in similar cases, as reflected in the Government's sentencing memo, and is consistent -- I'm sorry, and so the defendant is, therefore, committed to the Bureau of Prisons for a term of 33 years.

I want to just make a note that, in determining the sentencing guideline calculations, I did find that all of the enhancements and offense characteristics in the guideline calculations are supported by a preponderance of the evidence

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based on the defendant's factual admissions at the plea hearing and also based on the information contained in the PSR.

So I'm going to turn now to the supervised release conditions.

Mr. Draskovich, in the PSR Probation recommends a number of supervised release conditions. Are there any objections?

MR. DRASKOVICH: No, there is not.

THE COURT: So while on supervised release, the defendant will be required to comply with the standard conditions of supervision recommended by the Sentencing Commission. The mandatory conditions of not committing another crime, not unlawfully possessing a controlled substance, refraining from unlawful use of a controlled substance, and participating in the drug testing protocol, making restitution, cooperating in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer, and then complying with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act -- we know that as SORNA -- as directed by the probation officer, the Bureau of Prisons, or any state sex offender registration agency in the state in which you reside, work, are a student, or were convicted of a qualifying offense.

The special conditions of employment with the U.S. Probation Office approval, the minor prohibition -- this is

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the one that prevents you from having direct contact with any child you know or reasonably should know to be under the age of 18, including your own children, without the permission of the probation officer. If you do have direct contact with a child you know or reasonably should know to be under the age of 18, including your own children, without the permission of Probation, you must report the contact within 24 hours.

Direct contact includes written communication, in-person communication, or physical contact. Direct contact does not include incidental contact during ordinary daily activities in public places.

I note that this is one of those conditions that targets a defendant's right to associate with an intimate family member. I've undertaken an individualized review of the relationship between the defendant and his children and concluded that this restriction is necessary to accomplish the goals of deterrence, protection of the public, rehabilitation, and this is based on the communications that this defendant was habitually engaging in with his own daughter -- or his own stepdaughter and his other victims, and the level of -- and the fact that the evidence in this case indicates that the level of access and grooming all happened because of that intimate relationship.

For the same reason, you must not communicate or otherwise interact with Victim Number 1 or Victim Number 2

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either directly or through someone else without first obtaining the permission of the Probation Office; that you will have the place restriction. So you will not be permitted to go or remain at any place primarily used by children under the age of 18 without the express permission of Probation. The search and seizure condition will apply, the no-pornography condition will apply, the sex offender treatment condition, and the polygraph condition, the computer search, computer monitoring, and computer monitoring software conditions will all be imposed. And I find that all of these conditions are reasonably related to the goals of deterrence, protection of the public, or rehabilitation; that they involve no greater deprivation of liberty than reasonably necessary to achieve these goals, and that they are consistent with the pertinent policy statements issued by the Sentencing Commission. Do we have a copy of those conditions in writing for the defendant? PROBATION OFFICER: Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: Mr. Parshall, you're being handed a written copy of those supervised release conditions. Can you acknowledge that for the record, please? THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I have them. Thank you. THE COURT: Thank you. A mandatory penalty assessment of \$400, which is \$100

per count, is required by statute. It's hereby imposed, and 1 it is due immediately. No fine will be imposed based on a 2 3 demonstrated inability to pay. 4 Let's talk about restitution, Ms. Pucci. 5 MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. There was a sealed 6 restitution request in the amount of \$31,920 for Victim 1. We 7 would ask that that be imposed as it is mandatory pursuant to 8 the statutes in this case. THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Draskovich? 9 10 MR. DRASKOVICH: We will submit it, Your Honor. 11 THE COURT: Thank you. 12 I have reviewed that request, and I am going to award restitution to Victim 1 in the amount of \$31,920 based on the 13 information that was provided in that sealed document. 14 15 And that is imposed under Title 18 United States Code 16 § 3663A. Is that correct, Ms. Pucci? 17 MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you. THE COURT: Are there additional findings that I need 18 to make? 19 MS. PUCCI: Your Honor, with regards to forfeiture, 2.0 there is a Final Order of Forfeiture on the docket at 72. I 21 22 have a copy if Your Honor does need it. 23 THE COURT: I have that one. 24 Mr. Draskovich, have you had an opportunity to review 25 the Final Order of Forfeiture?

MR. DRASKOVICH: I have, Your Honor, and we have no 1 2 objection. 3 THE COURT: All right. It's the Samsung A6 cellular 4 phone and the Samsung Galaxy cellular phones. And I'm going 5 to sign this proposed order and hand it to Danielle for 6 filing. Thank you. 7 Anything else on that, Mr. Draskovich? 8 MR. DRASKOVICH: No, Your Honor. Thank you. THE COURT: Okay. Let's turn back to restitution. 9 10 So I do -- with respect to that prior amount, I do order the 11 defendant to make restitution in the amount of \$31,920. This 12 is an offense for which restitution is authorized by statute, 13 and this is an amount that is consistent with and I find is 14 the amount of actual loss sustained by the victim -- Victim 15 Number 1 -- as a result of this offense or will be the amount 16 she sustains. 17 Any unpaid balance must be paid at a monthly rate of 18 not less than 10 percent of any income earned during 19 incarceration or gross income while on supervision subject to 2.0 adjustment based on ability to pay. I do not order interest 21 to accrue on the restitution judgment. 22 MS. PUCCI: Your Honor? 23 THE COURT: Other restitution items? MS. PUCCI: There's no other restitution that we're 24 25 seeking in this case. The other victims did withdraw knowing

that there was a live victim, but I did want to clarify and 1 2 correct myself. Because this was a 2251 case, the restitution 3 is mandatory under 2259(b)(9) and (c)(3). 4 THE COURT: Sorry. So then it will be under 2259(b)(9) and (c)(3)? 5 MS. PUCCI: Correct. 6 THE COURT: All right. Those will be the provisions 7 8 under which this is imposed. MS. PUCCI: 9 Thank you, Your Honor. 10 THE COURT: Is the Government asking for --11 MS. PUCCI: The last thing, Your Honor, I believe is 12 the JVTA assessment for Count 1 and Count 4. 13 THE COURT: The Justice for Victims of Trafficking 14 Act of 2015 requires the Court to assess an amount of \$5,000 15 per count on any non-indigent person or entity convicted of a 16 qualifying offense. So the Government is asking for an award 17 then of \$10,000 total on that? 18 MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. THE COURT: Mr. Draskovich? 19 MR. DRASKOVICH: Your Honor, it's our position that 2.0 21 he is an indigent person. 22 THE COURT: Ms. Pucci, your response to the claim of 23 indigency? 24 MS. PUCCI: Your Honor, he's not indigent. He is a 25 capable person who, once he is out of custody, he can find a

job. Also, the defendant has retained counsel in this case. 1 2 He was not found indigent in the case to retain 3 Mr. Draskovich, so we would ask that the \$10,000 be imposed. 4 MR. DRASKOVICH: And just briefly in response, given 5 the function of the last three years of his having been in 6 custody, his status has changed. 7 THE COURT: All right. Because I am not convinced 8 that he would not be capable of working and earning a living 9 once he is released, I do not find that he is indigent. So I 10 am going to impose the \$5,000-per-count assessment under the JVTA for a total of \$10,000. 11 12 Have I hit all of the fines and other provisions? 13 MS. PUCCI: Yes, Your Honor. The only last thing is 14 the right to appeal, and then we're done. Thank you. 15 THE COURT: Thank you. 16 Mr. Parshall, in your -- your -- to the extent that 17 you've retained rights to appeal, I'm advising you that you 18 have 14 days to file a notice of appeal. If you cannot afford 19 an attorney to handle your appeal, one will be appointed to 2.0 represent you. And if you cannot afford a transcript of the 21 record in this case, one will be prepared for appeal at the 22 Government's expense. 23 Do you understand all of that, sir? 24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. 25 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

PROBATION OFFICER: Your Honor? I apologize for 1 2 interrupting. I do believe that the Amy, Vicky, and Andy 3 Child Pornography Victim Assistance Act of 2018 applies in 4 this case. MS. PUCCI: May I have a moment, Your Honor? 5 6 THE COURT: You may. 7 MS. PUCCI: Your Honor, I do believe that Probation 8 is correct. I think the minimum fine is \$1,000, and I think that is what was requested in the PSR if I'm not mistaken. 9 10 THE COURT: That is what is indicated in the PSR. 11 PROBATION OFFICER: Probation is recommending a 12 thousand. Pursuant to the statute, the Court can go up to 13 \$35,000. THE COURT: All right. Mr. Draskovich, do you --14 15 your response. 16 MR. DRASKOVICH: Your Honor, we'll submit it on the 17 recommendation of Probation. 18 THE COURT: Thank vou. 19 All right. And based on the recommendation by 2.0 Probation, I will impose the \$1,000 assessment under the Amy, 21 Vicky, and Andy Child Pornography Victim Assistance of -- Act 22 of 2018 having considered the factors in Title 18 United 23 States Code § 3553(a) and in Title 18 United States Code § 3572. 24 25 Mr. Parshall pled straight up to all of the charges,

so there's nothing to dismiss. 1 2 Mr. Draskovich, does your client request a 3 recommendation that he be permitted to serve his sentence at a 4 specific facility or one with a particular program? 5 MR. DRASKOVICH: He just requests a facility in 6 California or a neighboring state, Your Honor. THE COURT: Okay. Would that be based on proximity 7 8 to family? MR. DRASKOVICH: It will be. 9 10 THE COURT: Okay. That will be the recommendation 11 then, that he be designated to serve his sentence at a 12 facility in California based on proximity to family. 13 Is there anything else that I need to address? I'll 14 ask Probation first. 15 PROBATION OFFICER: No, Your Honor. THE COURT: 16 Thank you. 17 MR. DRASKOVICH: No, Your Honor. Thank you. 18 MS. PUCCI: No, Your Honor. Thank you. 19 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 2.0 All right. Mr. Parshall, you wish you the best of 21 luck. 22 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you. 23 THE COURT: Defendant is remanded to the custody of 24 the Marshal to await designation by the Bureau of Prisons. 25 Thank you, all, for being here, and giving me your statements

1	today. We're adjourned.
2	(Proceedings adjourned at 5:01 p.m.)
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4	COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
5	
6	I, AMBER M. McCLANE, Official Court Reporter, United
7	States District Court, District of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada,
8	do hereby certify that pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 753 the
9	foregoing is a true, complete, and correct transcript of the
10	proceedings had in connection with the above-entitled matter.
11	
12	DATED: 7/23/2023
13	
14	/s/ <u>Imber M. McClane</u> AMBER McCLANE, RPR, CRR, CCR #914
15	AMBER MCCLANE, RPR, CRR, CCR #914
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